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Thule Times Editorial Staff

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TAPA executive council reshapes organization

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

The Thule Association of Professional Airmen has a new executive administration that is reinvigorating the council's structure and organization for ideally the last time.

"TAPA is always re-invented with new administrations. We're creating an association that doesn't need to be re-invented again. We're setting a foundation that is solid and doesn't need to be rebuilt to pass onto future executive councils," said Master Sgt. Joseph Johnson, 821st Air Base Group comptroller and new TAPA president.

Under this new organization, the three organizations that make up TAPA – Rising 6, Top 3 and the CGO council – play a more prominent role.

"These councils are coming to the forefront as you would see at other bases," Sergeant Johnson said. "TAPA is not taking a back seat; it's wrapping its arms around the other three organizations, allowing those three organizations to be in the spotlight."

"The mid-tier ranks are being groomed to be future leaders. Our senior NCOs and CGOs are taking opportunities to lead and reach down and provide guidance," said Tech. Sgt. Anthony Parmer, 821st ABG safety officer and TAPA vice president.

Each council representative is the president of their respective council, and each is responsible for certain events occurring throughout the year.

"We had formal events that needed to be planned and organized so we delved

out those duties to the three organizations. The Rising 6 is in charge of the quarterly awards; the Top 3 runs the annual awards, professional development activities and promotion ceremonies; and the CGO Council plans the Dining Out," Sergeant Johnson said.

Despite the assignments, councils still work together for all events.

Another one of the new administration's goals is developing Thule's professional development center.

"The professional development center has been a project that has been like the Wright brothers trying to get the plane off the ground. We want to get the curriculum and classroom flying so future administrations can sustain it. That is the biggest thing we want to accomplish during our tenure," Sergeant Johnson said.

Finally, the administration wants to re-invent TAPA in service member's minds.

"I want to see a living organization that from bottom to top, the Airmen have examples and leaders to look at. I want active involvement from all Air Force personnel," Sergeant Parmer said. "People should be proud of the organization they belong to."

The new executive council, chosen by TAPA members, includes Sergeant Johnson as president; Sergeant Parmer as vice president; Staff Sgt. Dan Garrison, 821st ABG comptroller, as treasurer; Senior Airman Sabrina Reyes, 821st ABG administration, as recorder; Capt. Jen Beisel, 12th Space Warning Squadron, as the CGOC representative; Master Sgt. Domingo Laborin, 821st Support Squadron civil engineer flight, as the Top 3 representative; and Tech. Sgt. Gary Hutcheson, 821st SPTS communications flight, as the Rising 6 representative.

"Excellence In All We Do"

**Lt. Col.
Dave "Flat" Meteyer
12th Space Warning
Squadron commander**

Over the last decade Lance Armstrong and Michael Phelps have risen to the pinnacle of their respective sports. Armstrong captured seven consecutive Tour de France titles while Michael Phelps captured 14 gold medals over the past two Olympics.

Clearly, these two individuals embody the concept of "excellence," and their efforts in pursuit of this excellence are simply remarkable. The final results underscore years of intense physical and mental training that propelled these two giants to seemingly insurmountable heights. Nothing was left to chance; both

men's preparations and pre-race routines were incredibly precise and no detail, regardless of how small, was left to chance.

Similarly, we all want to achieve excellence in the upcoming operational readiness inspection and unit compliance inspection, and with the proper "race" preparations we will. Hopefully, you have already been reviewing your programs and practicing your procedures both during the wing-level Condor Crest exercises as well as within your local flight and unit exercises.

However, one of the biggest challenges with inspection preparations is taking a step back and really looking at your program with a critical eye.

One technique to help

mitigate this potential hazard is to have Airmen outside your organization review your program. Remember, simply saying "yes" to SIP questions misses the point; it's about thoroughly documenting an entire process that clearly demonstrates unquestionable compliance with Air Force instructions.

Next, prior to the inspection, you should practice your initial presentation to the inspectors, have your strengths highlighted up front and help them appreciate the challenges you face running a program inside the Arctic Circle.

Lastly, exhibit a sense of confidence and positivity during the inspection. Many of Armstrong and Phelps' teammates frequently commented

about the extra motivation that these two individuals spread across the entire team, driving others to achieve their own levels of excellence. The Air Force "race" is no different: stay positive, be friendly and speak professionally and confidently when dealing with inspectors. Your pride and the manner in which you demonstrate that pride speak volumes.

In conclusion, remember that excellence is not just something that drives world class athletes, but is one of our Air Force core values. Take the time now to drive your programs closer and closer to this standard. Your hard work will directly impact the ORI/UCI —the next big "race" on Team Thule's calendar.

Fiscal responsibility doesn't disappear with home

**Senior Airman Jared Korman
Joint Security Forces**

SOTO CANO AIR BASE, Honduras -- Everyday we look around and see the finer aspects of life and glamorous lifestyles many of our peers appear to enjoy.

However, some people appear to be financially stable, when in reality, they are overwhelmed by debt.

Personally, the last four years in the military have truly been an eye opener. Many close friends, in addition to distant acquaintances, have either become depressed or were reprimanded through the Uniform

Code of Military Justice because of their irresponsible financial actions.

Many think remote assignments will bring them financial freedom because of less spending and distraction. This is far from the truth; even at the most remote base in the Air Force, I still notice a number of personnel confined by financial hardship.

Before I left Thule where I belonged to the 821st Security Forces Squadron, I had a superior approach me to discuss financial matters. I was glad to finally see someone taking a positive step regarding their

ever-so-important financial future. I encourage everyone to develop a safe and secure financial plan to achieve respective goals.

You have many options to secure a financial future some of which include the thrift savings plan, mutual and index funds, stocks, electronic funds transfers, bonds, commodities and currency. In addition, there are many strategies involved when investing. All you need to do is find the strategy that best fits your current income. Remember, you can always contact the 21st Force Support Squadron at DSN: 834-6141 for assistance.

All Airmen in medical office win awards

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group
Public Affairs

One hundred percent of Thule's Airmen in the 821st Support Squadron Surgeon General's office received command-level awards this week for their exceptional performance and professionalism in their fields.

Ok, so there are only two Airmen in the SG office.

Tech. Sgt. Darrell Clement, 821st SPTS/SG, received the Independent Duty Medical Technician Outstanding NCO of the Year for Air Force Space Command, and Capt. Ed Jackowski, 821st SPTS/SG, received the AFSPC Brigadier General Peter C. Bellisario Young Health Care Administrator of the Year award.

Both will move on to compete at the Air Force level. Results of that competition are typically released in February.

As an IDMT here, Sergeant Clement can see active duty members as patients, treat patients in the field, prescribe medications and treat lacerations, among other things.

"Basically, I'm a field medic," said Sergeant Clement, a relative newcomer to the medical field with just over two years experience as an IDMT.

"It's a great compliment to me to be even thought of being in the category of other IDMTs of the caliber I've worked with," Sergeant Clement said.

Part of Sergeant Clem-

ent's accomplishments include the success of the drug reduction program, being a quality assurance evaluator for a seven-bed military treatment facility employing multinational forces, coordinating eight aeromedical evacuations and serving as the medical liaison between the American and Danish residents.

"This is the first time I've ever received a command level award. I was very surprised," Sergeant Clement said.

"Sergeant Clement is a true believer in doing things the right way rather than doing things the easy way. He works long hours, weekends, and holidays to make sure that all of the active duty, civilians, and contractors stationed at Thule receive the best medical care possible at a remote location," said Captain Jackowski, Sergeant Clement's supervisor. "I truly have the best medical NCO, and he is stationed at the Top of the World."

Captain Jackowski received his award for exceptionally planning, implementing and improving processes in Thule's clinic.

"This award indicates Captain Jackowski is moving in the right direction for both mission accomplishment and career progression, and that he is well-prepared for increased responsibilities eventually leading to squadron and/or group command," said Lt. Col. David Arnold, 821st Air Base Group deputy commander.

Among other things,



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Capt. Ed Jackowski, 821st Support Squadron Surgeon General's office, and Tech. Sgt. Darrell Clement, 821st SPTS/SG, received command-level awards this week for their exceptional performance and professionalism in their fields. Captain Jackowski received the Air Force Space Command Brigadier General Peter C. Bellisario Young Health Care Administrator of the Year award, and Sergeant Clement received the Independent Duty Medical Technician Outstanding NCO of the Year award for AFSPC.

Captain Jackowski successfully fulfilled being the only medical service corps personnel in Thule and the only administrator – a job typically reserved for lieutenant colonels – created an Air Force Smart Operations 21 initiative and directed eight aeromedical

evacuations.

"It is nice to be recognized by the medical community for doing a good job. However, I don't do what I do for awards. I work as hard as I can every day because that is my job, plain and simple," Captain Jackowski said.

Thule Airman selected for AFHG

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

A Thule Airman was recently selected to join the Air Force's prestigious Honor Guard stationed in Washington, D.C.

After finishing his assignment here, Staff Sgt. Nick Grady, 821st Air Base Group publications and forms management, will attend the honor guard technical school in Bolling Air Force Base, Va., March 9 for several weeks.

"I expect great things from Sergeant Grady in his new role with the Air Force Honor Guard. He truly epitomizes the qualities of 'Ambassadors in Blue.' He is a perfect fit, and he has such respect for the AFHG as a corporate body that I know he will do outstanding things," said Chief Master Sgt. Al Herring, 821st Air Base Group superintendent.

There are three possible flights Sergeant Grady could join after training: colors, body bearers and the firing party. The colors flight works with American, Air Force and visiting foreign dignitaries' flags. Body bearers carry remains to burial sites and the firing party performs the three volley salute at funerals and memorials.

"I would like to be in colors, which is what we do here – dealing with flags and stuff. I wouldn't mind being a pall bearer, but I'd need to go to the gym" Sergeant Grady said.

Sergeant Grady ultimately wishes to

be on the Air Force Drill Team, which is made up of the best Airmen from the three flights.

"My goal is to be on the drill team, but that's only something your supervisor can recommend. You can't decide to do it on your own," Sergeant Grady said.

Applying for the Air Force Honor Guard is a lengthy and detailed process. There are several restrictions to Air Force Honor Guard membership including height, vision and history of balance and joint problems.

"When I was told the news, I was relieved. It took so long to put the package together, but now I can be relieved that I know where I'm going after here. As time goes on, I'm getting more excited," said Sergeant Grady, whose parents are in the Air Force.

In addition, applicants need two letters of recommendation from the current chief enlisted manager and a person of the applicant's choice.

"I think if you've thought about it and you meet the requirements, you should go for it. There's really no better time than now. The things you learn in the Air Force Honor Guard not only help you now, but you can carry them through the rest of your life," Sergeant Grady said.

For more information on applying to the Air Force Honor Guard, visit <http://www.honorguard.af.mil/recruiting/>.



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Staff Sgt. Nick Grady, 821st Air Base Group publications and forms management, performs an arrival detail here for Maj. Gen. David L. Frostman, Air Force Space Command commander individual mobility augmentee, Sept. 18. Sergeant Grady was recently accepted to the Air Force Honor Guard stationed out of Washington, D.C.

The 21st Space Wing MISSION

"Conduct flawless missile warning and space control operations, provide unsurpassed installation support and protection, while developing and deploying Warrior Airmen to defend America and our Allies."





Members of the Air Force Post Office and volunteers sort nearly 1,600 pounds of mail Dec. 8 at the APO. Mail is first sorted by box number groups and then individuals during the biweekly mail delivery service.

Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Volunteers keep mail flowing at APO

1st Lt. Lisa Meiman
821st Air Base Group Public Affairs

Most Monday and Thursday evenings, Americans at Thule rush into the one building that houses the single most important activity for morale here: mail delivery at the Air Force Post Office.

"Mail is a huge morale booster for the people here. When people come in and they have a box from family or a company, you can tell it's a huge morale booster," said, Tech. Sgt. Willie Andino, postmaster.

Thule only gets two cargo flights each week.

"Only getting mail twice a week makes it a little more appreciated," he added.

APO employees receive, sort and deliver between 800 and 2,400 pounds of mail twice a week. The four full-time Airmen who work there would be a little overwhelmed if not for the twice-a-week volunteers.

"The volunteers are extremely important to get the mail ready for customers quickly and to provide better quality of service," said Sergeant Andino, a Services journeyman who volunteered for the postmaster job at Thule.

Each mail day the post office gets 3-8 volunteers.

Volunteers are typically from within the communications flight or shift workers,



Senior Airman Dominic Depaolo, 821st Security Forces Squadron, carries a package into the Air Force Post Office here Dec. 8. He is one of several volunteers helps sort and deliver mail for Thule's American residents.

like the 821st Security Forces Squadron.

Senior Airman Dominic Depaolo, 821st SFS and one of the regular volunteers at the post office, spends his free time there when he's not on shift for something to do and for more personal reasons.

"I used to work in a post office before joining the military, and my parents still work in one," he said.

On a typical mail day, Airman Depaolo helps take mail in and out of the truck and sorts boxes and letters by box number groups and then by individual.

The post office is open noon to 8 p.m. on mail days. Volunteers only help with receiving and sorting mail, usually working from 2 to 4:30 p.m.

"Some days it takes an hour. Sometimes it takes 3," Airman Depaolo said.

During this holiday season, the average delivery load per mail day has been 1,600 pounds like it was Dec. 8. For the 1,600 pounds the APO received Monday, it took about 2-3 hours to sort through all of it, but according to Airman Depaolo, the time is worth it.

"It's fun. We all talk and poke fun at each other. It's like working with friends," he said.

Volunteers can call in ahead of time to let the post office know they will be coming or just show up.

"There isn't a schedule or anything," Sergeant Andino said.

"Mail up here is your only physical contact with people outside. You're always looking for that package from your mom or your girlfriend. You're always looking for a little slice of home," Airman Depaolo said.



Compassion in action: Operation Julemand

Photos by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Top: Julemand, or "Santa Claus" in Danish, hands a present to a girl during Qaanaaq, Greenland's, Julemand celebration in Qaanaaq Dec. 20. A year of fundraising at Thule, called Operation Julemand, culminates in this event where nearly 300 gifts are given out and thousands of dollars donated to four local communities. Started in 1959, Operation Julemand is a humanitarian program organized and supported by all members of Team Thule – American, Danish, Greenlandic and Canadian -- to give back to the local Greenlandic community.

Right: Tech. Sgt. Gary Hutcheson, 821st Support Squadron communications flight, hands out candy to Qaanaaq children.

----- Julemand,
See page 7





----- Julemand,
From page 6

Two Qaanaaq children play with their new trucks in the community center. Qaanaaq is the closest village to Thule Air Base, nearly 80 miles away and accessible only by helicopter, plane or dogsled. Other villages are even farther, but Team Thule still thinks of them as part of the local community. Members of Team Thule flew to Qaanaaq to participate in the celebration which included a visit from Santa, singing and gift exchange.

Qaanaaq children examine the gifts purchased by Team Thule underneath the Christmas tree at their community center during their Julemand celebration. Team Thule holds fundraising efforts throughout the year to purchase these gifts for Qaanaaq children and three other Inuit villages: Savissivik, Siorapaluk and Qeqertat. Money from the fundraising also supports efforts like nursing homes and new playgrounds at schools. In 2006, Team Thule raised \$22,000. In 2007, it raised \$24,500.



Qaanaaq children enthusiastically greet Santa Claus, an American contractor from Thule named Brian Hawes who volunteered to play the esteemed guest to the celebration. "The people of Team Thule make Thule Air Base more than just a job; they make it a home. And the generous people here have opened that home to the local community through Julemand and other community relations events," said Col. Tom Peppard, 821st Air Base Group commander.



TSP contribution limits set for 2009

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFNS) -- The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board recently announced an increase in the 2009 elective deferral limit for regular Thrift Savings Plan contributions.

The limit is now \$16,500, up from \$15,500 for 2008.

In addition, contributions for the TSP catch-up plan will increase to \$5,500, up from the \$5,000 limit set for the last three years.

"TSP is a long-term retirement savings plan, which everyone should consider," said Fran Campbell, a human resources specialist at the Air Force Personnel Center here. "It's a great supplement to military and civilian retirement plans."

The plan gives investors the opportunity to lower their taxes each year they contribute. The taxes are deferred until the employee withdraws from the account after retirement.

"Investment money is deposited directly from each paycheck, so you never have to think about it. That makes it easy to 'pay yourself first' while only investing what you deem appropriate," Ms. Campbell said.

She also said that investing in TSP is not limited to just stocks.

"People can choose safer government securities or invest in the lifecycle funds," Ms. Campbell said.

Catch-up contributions are additional tax-deferred contributions and are separate from regular TSP contributions. For those who are eligible, catch-up contributions

provide a way for individuals to secure their retirement if they began investing later in their careers.

To be eligible for catch-up contributions, civilian and military employees must be age 50 or older in the year in which the first deduction from pay occurs. They must also be in a pay status and be able to certify they will make, or have made, the maximum "regular" employee contributions of \$16,500 to a TSP or other eligible account by the end of 2009.

Other eligible accounts include uniformed services TSP accounts or other eligible employer plans, such as 401Ks. To be eligible, employees cannot be in the six-month, non-contribution period following a financial hardship in-service withdrawal.

Catch-up contributions automatically stop with the last pay date in the calendar year or when the maximum catch-up dollar limit for the year is reached, whichever comes first.

Eligible employees must submit a new election for each year they wish to participate.

Regular TSP contributions stop when an employee's contributions reach the annual maximum limit and then automatically resume the next calendar year.

With TSP, military members:

- Can contribute any whole percentage of basic pay, as long as the annual total of the tax-deferred investment doesn't exceed \$16,500 for 2009. As long as they contribute from basic pay, Airmen can also invest all or part of

Thule Spotlight



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

HOLIDAY DINNER

Chief Master Sgt. Al Herring, 821st Air Base Group superintendent, hands off turkey carving duties to Maj. Alistair Funge, 22nd Space Operations Squadron Detachment 3, at Dundas Buffet Restaurant Dec. 25. The 821st ABG leadership took turns serving the dining facility patrons a special holiday dinner.

their bonuses, special pay or incentive pay. Members may enroll in December; however, requested actions will not update until Jan. 1.

- Can enroll or change their regular TSP contribution amount through the Defense Finance and Accounting Service Web site by filling out a TSP-U-1 Election Form at local military personnel flights and finance offices.

- Start catch-up contributions by filling out a Form TSP-U-1-C, TSP Catch-Up Contribution Election.

- Start contribution allocations (how an employee chooses to invest money among the investment funds).

For details, visit AFPC's "Ask" Web site and enter "Thrift Savings Plan" in the search function.

Additional information about TSP, both regular and catch-up, is available on the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov>. See "Summary of the Thrift Savings Plan" located under civilian or uniformed services TSP Forms and Publications.

New Year brings new tools to quit tobacco

Ric Carlson
21st Medical Group

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. -- The U.S. Department of Defense and Tri-care are offering new online tools to help military service and family members keep their New Year's resolution to quit tobacco.

The DOD-sponsored educational campaign, "Quit Tobacco - Make Everyone Proud," is expanding its interactive Web site at www.uequit2.org. Users can now create a blog when they register at the site to share their experiences with family and friends and sign an electronic "I Resolve to Quit" bulletin board to publicly announce

their resolution to become tobacco free.

Participants will also have access to a customizable quit calendar after Jan. 4 to record milestones and track progress. The expanded networking capabilities allow users to share ideas, tips and advice with fellow service members, as well as their family and friends.

Deciding to quit tobacco is the first step, but becoming tobacco free may take more than one try. On average, it takes 11 attempts before a person can quit tobacco for good. Motivation and support are key factors in giving up tobacco products. Studies show that if a person attempts to quit with a friend, they are 36

percent more likely to remain smoke free. The Web site allows service members to get the support they need from family and friends, no matter where they live. Studies also show that quitters who seek counseling and support increase their chances of remaining tobacco free to 15.8 percent, as compared to only 10.8 percent for those who do not seek counseling.

"Quit Tobacco - Make Everyone Proud" is aimed at supporting enlisted active-duty military personnel in their efforts to quit tobacco. The DOD urges service members to log on and take advantage of the Web site to increase their chances of becoming tobacco free.

The new features build on the interactive support tools already available on the Web site. Service members can listen to podcasts, chat anonymously with a trained tobacco cessation coach, browse articles, locate local cessation programs, calculate how much money they'll save when they quit tobacco, and create personalized quit plans.

Individuals who want to help someone they know quit tobacco can visit the Web site to find information on giving up tobacco, send motivational e-cards, and view their friend's and/or family member's progress to support them in reaching their goals.

Want to make an Air Force commercial?

Staff Sgt. J.G. Buzanowski
Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (AFNS) -- Senior leaders are asking Airmen to get behind the camera and submit a video for the next Air Force advertising campaign. The contest has begun and runs until Jan. 9.

Airmen are encouraged to create a video depicting what their unit or they do to support the Air Force mission, as well as highlight why people should join the Air Force.

The videos potentially will be used for the next recruiting and retention advertising campaign, according to Keith Lebling, the contest manager.

The contest is divided into two categories: Professional Team and Individual Airman.

The Professional Team category is intended for organizations or Airmen who produce broadcast-quality videos as part of their normal

duty responsibilities.

The Individual Airman category is for Airmen not assigned to an organization such as that, and the video must be produced using privately owned video and editing equipment.

"This was an idea that came out of the last CORONA senior leader meeting," Mr. Lebling said. "Our Airmen are extremely creative and have a lot of great ideas, so why not give them a chance to come up with an idea for the next recruiting and retention commercial?"

Once submitted, the videos become the intellectual property of the Air Force and there is no guarantee it will be aired on television, Mr. Lebling added.

To submit a video, Airmen should visit the Video Contest Community of Practice Web site at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/EntryCoP.asp?Filter=AF-SC-01-38> and upload their entry under their MAJCOM folder. If they're not as-

signed to a particular MAJCOM, Airmen should use the Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs folder.

In addition, Mr. Lebling said videos should not have an embedded sound track or background music, although suggestions are welcome.

Also, videos that violate Air Force code of ethics standards will be eliminated from the competition.

The specific submission guidelines can be found on the Video Contest Web page listed above, but note that videos should be no larger than 40mb and between 27-30 seconds.

Mr. Lebling also warned that Airmen must be aware of and avoid potential copyright infringement. This includes, but is not limited to background music, visible logos, endorsing a product or unoriginal video footage.

For more information, call the 21st Space Wing Public Affairs at (719) 556-5185.

ILO taskings renamed Joint Expeditionary Taskings

Gen. Norton A. Schwartz
Chief of Staff of the Air Force

The Nation is at war and the capabilities we provide as a part of the Joint team are vitally important.

Portions of the capabilities we deliver have until this point fallen into a broad category of tasks designated as "In-Lieu-Of" (ILO).

The Department of Defense enacted several changes to Joint terminology on 1 October 2008 that replaces most ILO designations with terms such as "Ad Hoc" or "Joint Force/Capability Solution." These new terms refine the categorization method and

more accurately describe the nature of the tasks, but the Air Force will emphasize our contribution to the fight with a single term that reflects our esprit and mission.

We will henceforth designate this contribution as Joint Expeditionary Tasking (JET). The JET term properly characterizes our combat-focused mindset and our joint posture.

When our Nation needs us, we answer the call with unrivaled speed, precision and reliability. The new JET term both connotes that spirit and denotes our role as joint partners.

We are not fighting in lieu of anything. We are fully committed to win-

ning today's fight with the innovative combat spirit our Airmen demonstrate every day. Terms that suggest otherwise are counter-productive to our expeditionary mission and are unfit descriptors of our "All In" ethos.

Please communicate this change to your Airmen and update your products accordingly. Our Airmen deliver game-changing capabilities in air, space and cyberspace for Combatant Commanders in a multitude of ways around the globe. We must ensure that those who contribute by serving in the JET role are appropriately recognized for the magnitude of their service.

Thule Promotions



Tech. Sgt. Willie Andino



Senior Airman Shannon Swank

"Never Ending Darkness"

Poem by Senior Airman Joseph Grooms
821st Security Forces Squadron

In some people it causes a fright,
darkness is where the Demons walk, right?
It doesn't matter here at Thule it's our life!
We are here in the Tundra, so quiet and dark,
sometimes it makes you wonder, ponder.
Among the snowy tire tracks we walk,
feeling the wind across our faces we try to block,
it doesn't stop.
It penetrates our every move, seeping through
every crack, the coldness creeps up your back.

No sun insight, what will I do "tonight"?
Look at the stars under our beautiful moonlight?
Read a book, look at pictures we took?
We all need to keep our minds busy, forget
about the darkness and pity,
for we are here to do a job, in the deepest
darkest one of them all...

THULE AIR BASE, GREENLAND!

JANUARY EVENTS

Sunday**Monday****Tuesday****Wednesday****Thursday****Friday****Saturday**

	1	2	3 CC open 1500-2100 Wednesdays	1 New Year's Day	2 Pituffik Poker tour 1900 CC OnTraceyLane 2200-0200 TOW	3 Basketball tournament gym OnTraceyLane 2200-0200 TOW
4 Floorhockey gym	5	6 OnTraceyLane 1800-2100 TOW	7 Col Raymond CC call 1400 TOW OnTraceyLane 1800-2100 TOW	8	9	10
11 Soccer tournament gym	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Handball tournament gym	19 MLK Jr. Day Dodgeball tournament gym Flea market CC	20	21 Lt Col Arnold going away party TOW	22	23	24 Spa of Wellness gym Seafood Buffet TOW
25 Spa of Wellness gym	26	27	28	29 Kansas City Cheerleaders	30	31

First Knight

SFS flight chief recognized for outstanding performance

821st Air Base Group

Tech Sgt. Felix E. Rolon was selected for Peterson's First Knight award for the week of Dec. 1-7. This award is designed to recognize outstanding Airmen each week for the work they do every day.

Name: Tech. Sgt. Felix E. Rolon

Unit: 821st Security Forces Squadron

Duty Title: Flight chief

Time in service: 13 years

Time assigned to the unit: 9 months

Hometown: Vineland, N.J.

Hobbies: Playing Xbox 360 sports games, Gym

Favorite music: Soft rock



Photo by 1st Lt. Lisa Meiman

Tech. Sgt. Felix E. Rolon was selected for the First Knight award for the week of Oct. 30. This award is designed to recognize outstanding Airmen each week for the work they do every day.

Last good movie: "The Bucket List"

Last good book: "The Hardcore Diaries: Mick Foley"

Why selected: "Tech. Sgt. Felix Rolon is the night flight chief. He directly supervises 18 personnel and

oversees security and law enforcement at the Department of Defense's northernmost installation.

"Sergeant Rolon is a true professional with a positive attitude and can always be counted on to get the job done." - Master Sgt. Charles Denton, 821st Security Forces Operations superintendent.

How has joining the Air Force impacted your life?

"Most importantly, the Air Force family has taken care of my family while I have been on this remote assignment. That has made my tour so much easier. When your family is taken care of, life is great. In turn, I have grown in positive ways for the mission and for my Airmen. The Air Force is like family; when a family member needs assistance, help comes right away" - *Sergeant Rolon.*

